

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for removing personal information from a first document created by a document-generating application that stores the personal information and makes the personal information visible at a comment block of the document, the method comprising:

activating a privacy option comprising computer-implemented instructions provided by the document-generating application; [[and]]

removing from all portions of the first document except for a body of the first document ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one piece of the personal information without deleting the first document, the ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one piece of the personal information being requested by the document-generating application during installation of the document-generating application; ~~and wherein the removal of one or more pieces of personal information from the first document comprises the computer-implemented stage of~~

replacing the ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one piece of personal information created by the document-generating application with generic information visible at each comment block of the first document, wherein the generic information was not previously visible at each comment block of the first document; [[and]]

receiving at least one additional piece of personal information into the first document after activation of the privacy option of the first document, wherein the at least one additional piece of personal information entered into the first document is one of the following:

when a save option is not available for the first document, removed from the first document as soon as the at least one additional piece of personal information is added to the first document, and

when the save option is available for the first document, removed from the document as soon as the first document is saved; and

saving the first document, when the save option is available for the first document, with the generic information replacing the at least one piece of removed personal information and the at least one additional piece of personal information, wherein saving the first document further comprises, in response to activating the privacy option, replacing the at least one piece of removed personal information and the at least one additional piece of personal information with the generic information in both a memory representation of the first document and a file representation of the first document.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein removing from all portions of the first document except for the body of the first document the at least one piece of the personal information without deleting the first document comprises

removing the ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one piece of personal information comprising
~~comprises~~ at least one of the following: an author's name, a user's name, a company
name, a manager's name, a last saved by name, an e-mail address, ~~[[or]]~~ and a
combination thereof.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein replacing the at
least one piece of personal information created by the document-generating application
with the generic information visible at each comment block of the first document
comprising replacing the at least one piece of personal information with the generic
information ~~comprises~~ comprising at least one of the following: a string of letters,
numbers, symbols, and spaces, ~~or a combination thereof~~.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein saving the first
document further comprising removing the at least one piece ~~removes one or more-~~
~~pieces~~ of personal information from display in the comment block appearing within the
first document when the first document is saved.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for removing personal information from a visible comment block appearing within a second document, wherein the method comprises creating a template of the second document from the first document produced by the method of Claim 1.

9. (Original) A computing system containing at least one application module usable on the computing system, wherein the at least one application module comprises application code for performing the method of Claim 1.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for removing personal information from a document created by a document-generating program that makes the personal information visible at a comment block of the document, the method comprising:

receiving input of ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one piece of personal information into ~~one or more~~ at least one data storage ~~fields~~ field of the document-generating program in response to a request for personal information from the document-generating program during installation of the document-generating program; [[and]]

receiving input to activate a computer-implemented privacy option provided by the document-generating program for the document, ~~wherein on activation of the privacy option the document-generating program removes;~~

removing, in response to receiving input to activate the computer-implemented privation option, the ~~one or more pieces~~ the at least one piece of personal information

from all portions of the document except for a body of the document, and from the comment block within the document, without deleting the document; [[and]]

replacing, by the document generating program, wherein the document generating program replaces the at least one piece of removed personal information with generic information visible in the comment block within the document, wherein the generic information was not previously visible at each comment block of the first document; [[and]]

receiving at least one additional piece of personal information into the document after activation of the privacy option of the document, wherein the at least one additional piece of personal information entered into first document is removed from the document as soon as the at least one additional piece of personal information is added to the document is when a save option is not available for the document;

receiving input₁ by the document-generating program₁ to save the document when the save option is available for the document, wherein saving the document removes; and

in response to receiving input, by the document-generating program, to save the document;

removing the one or more pieces at least one piece of personal information and the at least one additional piece of personal information from the document and the comment visible within block of the document ~~or replacing-~~ replaces, and

replacing the ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one piece of personal information and the at least one additional piece of personal information with generic information in the document and the comment box visible within block of the document in both a memory representation of the document and a file representation of the document.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein removing from all portions of the first document except for the body of the first document the at least one piece of the personal information without deleting the first document comprises removing the ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one piece of personal information comprising ~~comprises~~ at least one of the following an author's name, a user's name, a company name, a manager's name, a last saved by name, an e-mail address, [[or]] and a combination thereof.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein ~~the generic information comprises~~ replacing, by the document generating program the at least one piece of removed personal information with the generic information visible in the comment block within the document comprises replacing the at least one piece of removed personal information with at least one of the following: a string of letters, numbers, symbols, and spaces, ~~or a combination thereof.~~

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 11, further comprising receiving input_i by the document-generating program_i to enter one or more pieces of new personal information into the document after activation of the privacy option of the document, wherein the one or more pieces removing the at least one additional piece of ~~[[new]]~~ personal information entered into the document ~~[[are]]~~, wherein removing the at least one additional piece of personal information comprises:

~~(a) removed from the document, or~~

removing the at least one additional piece of personal information as soon as an "OK" prompt provided by the document-generating program is replied to by a user.

removing the at least one additional piece of personal information as soon as the document is closed.

~~(b) replaced~~ replacing the at least one additional piece of personal information with the generic information ~~[[(1)]]~~ as soon as the ~~one or more pieces~~ at least one additional piece of ~~[[new]]~~ personal information are added to the document, ~~[[or]]~~

replacing the at least one additional piece of personal information ~~[[(2)]]~~ as soon as ~~[[an]]~~ the "OK" prompt provided by the document-generating program is replied to by ~~[[an]]~~ the user, ~~[[or]]~~ and

replacing the at least one additional piece of personal information ~~[[(3)]]~~ as soon as the document is closed.

17. (Original) A computing system containing at least one application module usable on the computing system, wherein the at least one application module comprises application code for performing the method of Claim 11.

18. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing the method of Claim 11.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium having ~~stored thereon~~ computer-executable a set of instructions for performing which when executed performs a method for removing personal information from a comment block within a document, the method executed by the set of instructions comprising:

activating a computer-implemented privacy option provided by the instructions,
~~wherein activation of the privacy option enables removal of one or more pieces of~~
~~personal information;~~

removing, in response to activating the computer-implemented privacy option, at
least one piece of personal information from all portions of the document except for a
body of the document without deleting the document, the ~~one or more pieces~~ at least
one piece of the personal information being requested by a document-generating
application during installation of the document-generating application; [[and]]

~~wherein the removal of one or more pieces of personal information from the~~
~~document comprises the computer-implemented stage of replacing the one or more~~
~~pieces~~ at least one piece of personal information with generic information visible in the

comment block of the document, wherein the generic information was not previously visible at each comment block of the first document; [[and]]

receiving at least one additional piece of personal information into the document after activation of the privacy option of the document, wherein the at least one additional piece of personal information entered into the document is one of the following:

when a save option is not available for the document, removed from the document as soon as the at least one additional piece of personal information is added to the document, and

when the save option is available for the document, removed from the document as soon as the document is saved; and

saving the ~~first~~ document, when the save option is available for the document, with the generic information replacing the at least one piece of removed personal information, wherein saving the ~~first~~ document ~~further~~ comprises, in response to activating the privacy option, replacing the at least one piece of removed personal information and the at least one additional piece of personal information with the generic information in both a memory representation of the document and a file representation of the document.

20.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, ~~wherein the further~~
~~comprising generating, by the~~ document-generating program, ~~generates~~ the comment
 block containing a comment added to the first document by a user of the program and
 also containing personal information about the user adding the comment; ~~and wherein~~
~~activating the privacy option removes the personal information from the~~
~~document and from the comment block of the document without removing the comment~~
~~block or the comment added to the document and displayed within the document.~~

28. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein replacing the at
least one piece of removed personal information with the generic information in both
 [[a]] the memory representation of the first document and [[a]] the file representation of
 the first document comprises maintaining content corresponding to the at least one
piece of personal information in a text portion in both the memory representation of the
 first document and the file representation of the first document.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of Claim 19,
 wherein replacing the at least one piece of removed personal information with the
 generic information in both [[a]] the memory representation of the ~~first~~ document and
 [[a]] the file representation of the ~~first~~ document comprises maintaining content
 corresponding to the at least one piece of personal information in a text portion in both
 the memory representation of the document and the file representation of the document.

30. (Currently Amended) A method for removing personal information from a first document created by a document-generating application that stores the personal information and makes the personal information visible at a comment block of the document, the method comprising:

activating a privacy option comprising computer-implemented instructions provided by the document-generating application;

receiving at least one piece of personal information into the document after activation of the privacy option of the document, wherein the at least one piece of personal information entered into first document is removed from the document as soon as the at least one piece of personal information is added to the document is when a save option is not available for the document;

upon subsequent addition of the at least one piece of personal information, automatically removing, when the save option is not available for the document, from all portions of the first document except for a body of the first document the at least one piece of the personal information without deleting the first document, the at least one piece of the personal information being requested by the document-generating application during installation of the document-generating application, the at least one piece of personal information comprising at least one of the following: an author's name, a user's name, a company name, a manager's name, a last saved by name, and an e-mail address, wherein automatically removing the at least one piece of personal information from the first document comprises ~~a computer-implemented stage of~~ replacing the at least one piece of personal information created by the document-generating application with generic information visible at each comment block of the first

document₁ wherein the generic information comprises at least one of the following: a string of letters, numbers, symbols, and spaces, and wherein the generic information was not previously visible at each comment block of the ~~first~~ document; and

saving the ~~first~~ document, when the save option is available for the document, with the generic information replacing the at least one piece of ~~removed~~ personal information, wherein saving the ~~first~~ document ~~further~~ comprises[[,]]:

in response to activating the privacy option and saving the document, replacing the at least one piece of removed personal information with the generic information in both a memory representation of the ~~first~~ document and a file representation of the ~~first~~ document₁, ~~wherein saving the first document removes the at least one piece of personal information from display in the comment block appearing within the first document when the first document is saved wherein~~ replacing the removed personal information with the generic information in both [[a]] the memory representation of the ~~first~~ document and [[a]] the file representation of the ~~first~~ document comprises maintaining content corresponding to the at least one piece of personal information in a text portion in both the memory representation of the ~~first~~ document and the file representation of the ~~first~~ document, and

removing the at least one piece of personal information from display in the comment block appearing within the first document when the document is saved.

31. (New) The method of Claim 27, wherein activating the privacy option removes the at least one piece of personal information from the document and from the comment block of the document without removing the comment block and the comment added to the document and displayed within the document.